IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

P.I.L. NO. 2258 OF 2004

Swapnil Pednekar .....Petitioner

VERSUS

Union of India & Ors. .....

Respondents

Mr. E.P. Bharucha instructed by Mr. N.S. Thacker for the Petitioner

Mr. Rajiv Chavan with Mr.M. Goswami for respondent Nos. 1 and 2

Mr. D.D. Madon with Mr. T.A. Mavani instructed by M/s. Mulla & Mulla & Craigie Blunt & Caroe for respondent No. 3

Mr. Chetan Kapadia with Mr. Kedar Dighe for respondent No. 4

Mr. Anil Menon for respondent No. 8.

CORAM: DALVEER BHANDARI, C.J., &
DR. D.Y. CHANDRACHUD, J.

DATE: AUGUST 16, 2004.

P.C.:-

1. This public interest litigation has been filed by a practising Advocate.

2. It is incorporated in the petition that the petitioner is an ardent lover of cricket and die-hard cricket fan of Indian team.

3. The petitioner's main apprehension was that the entire tender-bids have been designed to give the same to one foreign party and to keep Indian broadcasters out.

4. The tender-bids were opened on Saturday, the 14th August, 2004.

5. The learned counsel appearing for Prasar Bharati states that Zee Group' s bid amount is US $ 260 millions, ESPN - Star

US $ 230 million and Prasar Bharati US $ 151 million.

6. These are, primarily, contractual matters, and we find no merit in the submission that the entire tender-bids were designed only for one particular foreign party, particularly when Prasar Bharati has participated in the same.

7. The petition, being devoid of any merit, is accordingly dismissed.

CHIEF JUSTICE

DR.D.Y.CHANDRACHUD, J.